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FBI Says Pollard Sought to Hide Data

By Ruth Marcus and Karlyn Barker
Washington Post Staff Writers

Several days before his arrest on espionage charges, Navy antiterrorist analyst Jonathan J. Pollard interrupted an interview with Navy and FBI investigators, telephoned his wife, and told her "to remove certain articles" from their Dupont Circle apartment, according to an affidavit filed in court yesterday.

Later that day, Anne Henderson-Pollard, 25, delivered to an unidentified person a suitcase "containing documents and information relating to the national defense," told this person that something had happened to her husband, and said that the "contents of the suitcase must be destroyed," according to the affidavit.

The next day, Nov. 19, FBI and Navy officials recovered the suitcase, bearing a tag with the name "Jay Pollard," in the apartment building at 1733 20th St. NW where the Pollards live, and determined that its contents were "numerous highly classified U.S. government documents and information relating to the national defense," said the affidavit.

Pollard, 31, a civilian intelligence analyst for the Naval Investigative Service who held top-secret clearance, is known by his middle name, Jay.

The affidavit was filed in support of Anne Henderson-Pollard's arrest Friday night. She was charged with one count of gathering or delivering national defense information and is to appear in court tomorrow morning.

Pollard was arrested Thursday outside the Israeli Embassy in upper Northwest Washington after he tried to drive into the closely guarded compound with his wife. He was charged with espionage, and sources said that he has admitted passing defense secrets to Israel.

In Tel Aviv yesterday, Israel Radio reported that Prime Minister Shimon Peres "has called a series of consultations in Jerusalem" about the Pollard case. The broadcast added that the Israeli government was likely to issue a statement on the case today.

Israeli Embassy spokesman Yossi Gal said yesterday that "we are not going to make any further comments until all the facts are studied. I don't see any point in getting into any of the stories or the rumors or the details now."

After Pollard's arrest, according to the affidavit, Pollard "also admitted that prior to his arrest, he and the defendant, Anne Henderson-Pollard, had entered the grounds of a foreign embassy for the purpose of seeking asylum, but that they had been unable to gain access to the embassy."

The affidavit stated that Pollard had admitted giving highly classified U.S. documents to representatives of unidentified foreign governments.

According to court papers, Henderson-Pollard has lived in the area for six years and attended the University of Maryland at College Park.

The papers said that she had worked for more than three years in the public relations office of the National Rifle Association and for the last two months has worked out of her home as director of the Washington office of an organization called "COMMCORE." No further information about the organization was available.

Friends of Pollard from the period when he was an undergraduate at Stanford in the mid-1970s said yesterday that he had boasted in college that he was working for Israel's intelligence agency Mossad and was being groomed by it to work in the U.S. government.

One friend, a congressional aide here who spoke on condition that his name not be used, said that Pollard claimed to be a colonel in the Israeli Army who spent most of his summers during his high school and college years undergoing military training there.

Jonathan Marshall, editorial page editor of the Oakland Tribune who knew Pollard when they were undergraduates at Stanford, said, "We all basically didn't know what to believe" of Pollard's boasting about Israeli connections, including a claim that he had "gone on Mossad's payroll."

"He told a lot of stories, some of which were hard to believe, but he told stories that had a certain credibility and enough detail that we thought some could possibly be true," Marshall said.

The Tribune published a story in yesterday's editions about Pollard's claimed Israeli ties. Pollard graduated from Stanford in 1976 with a degree in political science.

A pretrial report on Pollard stated that three years ago he had an unspecified "emotional problem" for about six months.

Marshall said Pollard's boasting "raises serious questions" about the thoroughness of the Navy's background check on Pollard.

"The fact that Jay boasted about working for Israeli intelligence made him unsuitable for working for naval intelligence," the Tribune editor added.

"If anybody from the FBI had investigated his background and talked to me, I certainly would have told them these stories," the congressional aide said here.

The aide described Pollard as "very troubled and very shadowy." He said that at one point Pollard became extremely concerned that a group of Israelis was trying to kill him, showed his friend a large revolver, and locked himself in his dormitory room.

Peter Walshe, a professor at Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind., where Pollard's father heads a cancer research laboratory, recalled that he had taught Pollard in a summer school course on South Africa when Pollard was in college.

Walshe said that Pollard was one of his best students, who "had a drive to understand the inner working of politics in all their Machiavellian dimensions," and was "fascinated by the exercise of power."

He said that Pollard especially was intrigued with intelligence-gathering and security services.

"He was interested in the security network in South Africa, he was interested in the way the CIA operated in this country, he was interested in Israel's capacity to defend itself in that way," Walshe said.

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A recently published book, "Between Washington and Jerusalem," by a longtime Washington correspondent for the Jeruselem Post states that U.S. and Israeli intelligence services agreed during the Eisenhower administration not to conduct covert operations against each other.

Until then, there had been an embarrassing series of attempts by the CIA to penetrate the Israeli military and to conduct electronic eavesdropping inside Israel.

The correspondent, Wolf Blitzer, said yesterday that cooperation between the CIA and Israeli intelligence is believed to be at an all-time high under CIA Director William J. Casey and, therefore, if the allegations in the Pollard case are true, the episode represents a "serious blunder" for Israel.

Staff writers Joe Pichirallo and Patrick E. Tyler and special correspondent Laurie Kalmanson contributed to this report.

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